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Final Report

PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE AND ARCHITECTURAL
INVENTORY FOR SELECTED AREAS WITHIN THE
DES MOINES RECREATIONAL RIVER AND GREENBELT
PROPOSED RACCOON RIVER REGIONAL PARK
WEST DES MOINES, IOWA

CONTRACT NO. DACW25-93-M-0573

PREPARED FOR:

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS

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PREPARED BY:

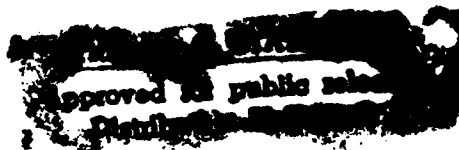
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AUGUST 1993



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ABSTRACT

This project represents the results of a Phase I archaeological and architectural investigation for selected areas within the proposed Raccoon River Regional Park in West Des Moines, Iowa. This study follows the recommendations of a previous land use history investigation of the project area and involved archaeological and architectural field reconnaissance and evaluation of the areas pinpointed by that study. Previous archival and oral historical research indicated that, historically, the majority of the project area was relatively inaccessible and flood prone throughout the nineteenth century, thus inhibiting actual settlement until the early twentieth century when river channel changes made the area more accessible. One farmstead was known to have been located within the borders of the project area; however, the Phase I field investigation resulted in the conclusion that the farmstead and all its associated structures were destroyed by the mining operations. This investigation also resulted in the recording of three extant buildings, all of which are less than 50 years of age and determined to be ineligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. These buildings require no further investigation. The field investigation found no archaeological sites within the impact zone of the proposed park construction and project clearance is recommended.

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INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a Phase I archaeological and architectural investigation of selected areas within the proposed Raccoon River Regional Park of the Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt in West Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa (Figure 1). The investigation was conducted for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, Rock Island, Illinois, and was based on the recommendations of a previous land use history study of the project area (Rogers 1993). This action was undertaken in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended); the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974; Executive Order 11593; Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 60-66 and 800 (as appropriate); and Public Law 99-98.

The purpose of this investigation was to locate, identify, and evaluate all historic properties within the project area in order to provide federal and state reviewing agencies with documentation of the project's potential impact on these properties. Historic properties include archaeological, architectural, and historical resources.

The Principal Investigator is solely responsible for the content and accuracy of this report with respect to site location, description, assessment, and recommendations. The project was conducted by Principal Investigator, Leah D. Rogers, in May 1993. The report is authored by the Principal Investigator.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed Raccoon River Regional Park is located in portions of Sections 15, 21, and 22, T78N-R25W, Walnut Township, Polk County, Iowa (Figure 2). The project parcel includes agricultural, riverine, and abandoned commercial mining land on the north side of the Raccoon River southwest of the City of Des Moines (see Figures 1 and 2). The mining land consists of flooded quarry pits, the largest of which constitutes a 250 acre lake; borrow areas; built-up haul roads; and an area where approximately 10 ft of fill from the adjacent sand and gravel pits was re-deposited on undisturbed land in the late 1960s. The mining operations began in the mid-1940s and continued until recently.

The history of the Raccoon River Regional Park began in 1986 when it was submitted as a potential project for the Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt. In 1987 it was selected as one of 13 key projects in the greenbelt system. This was followed in 1988 by the initiation of a Site Development Plan which resulted in the hiring of Stanley Consultants, Inc., of Des Moines to prepare a Master Plan which was completed in July of 1991. Since that time, the Master Plan has been modified somewhat, with the present design plans presented in Figure 3. This plan includes facilities for softball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, basketball, boating, fishing, canoeing, and swimming as well as a system of foot and bike trails, picnic areas, and nature areas (Anonymous 1992; Stanley Consultants et al. 1991).

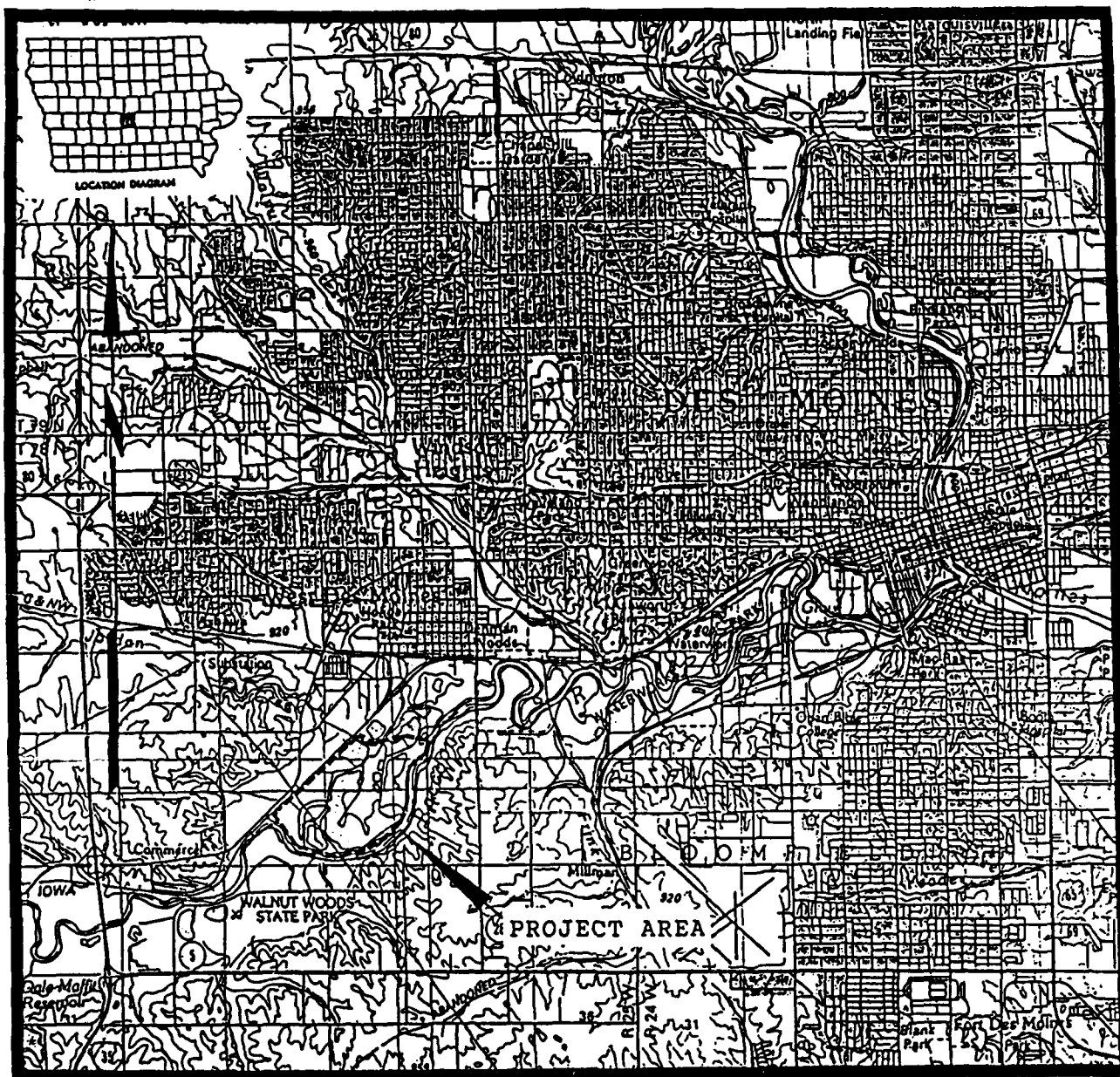


Figure 1. Project Location.
Source: USGS Polk County Topographic Map, 1986
Scale: 1:100,000

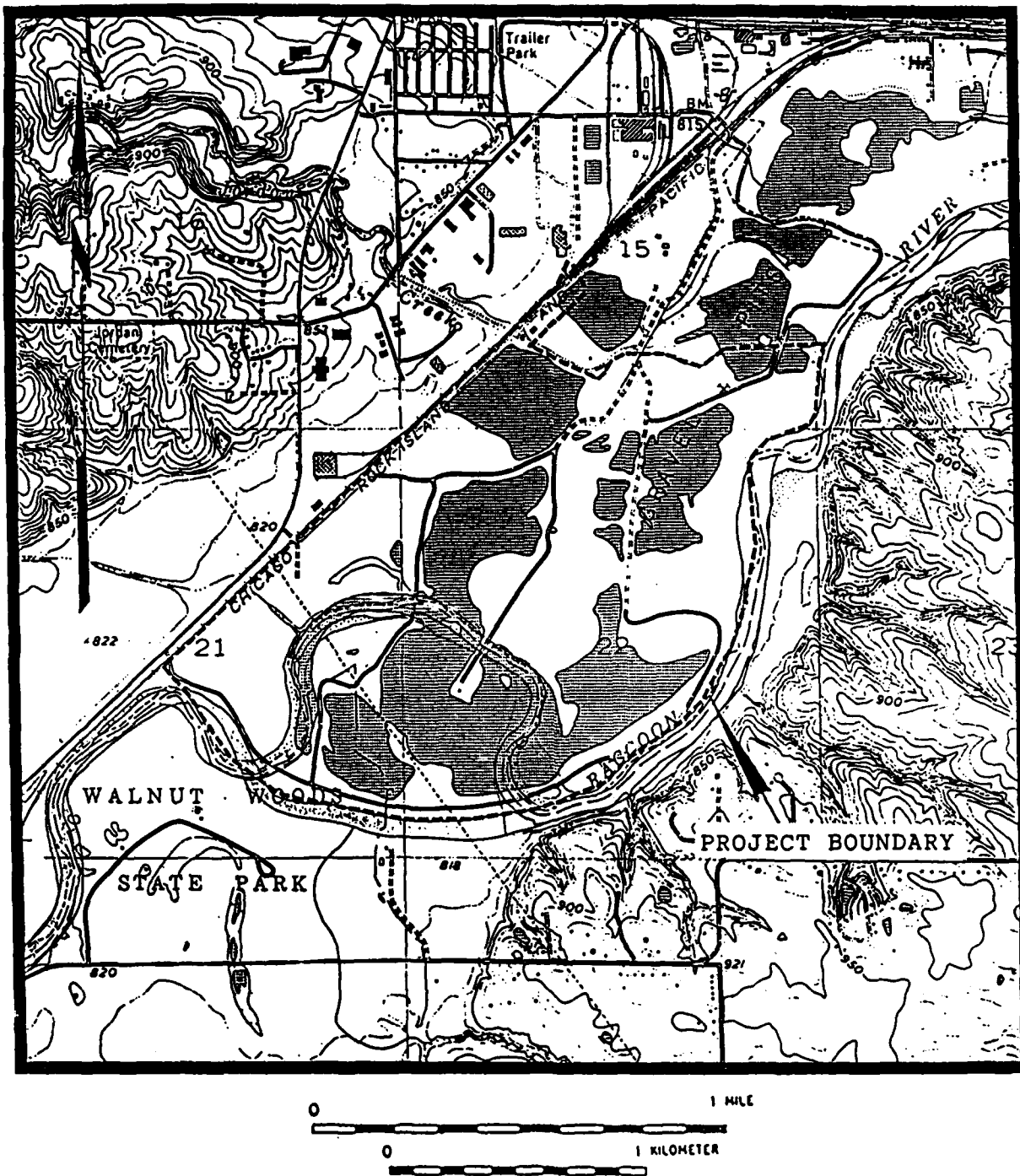


Figure 2. Project Area.
 Source: USGS Des Moines SW, 1956 (photorevised 1967, 1971 and 1976), 7.5' series quad map
 Scale: 1:24,000

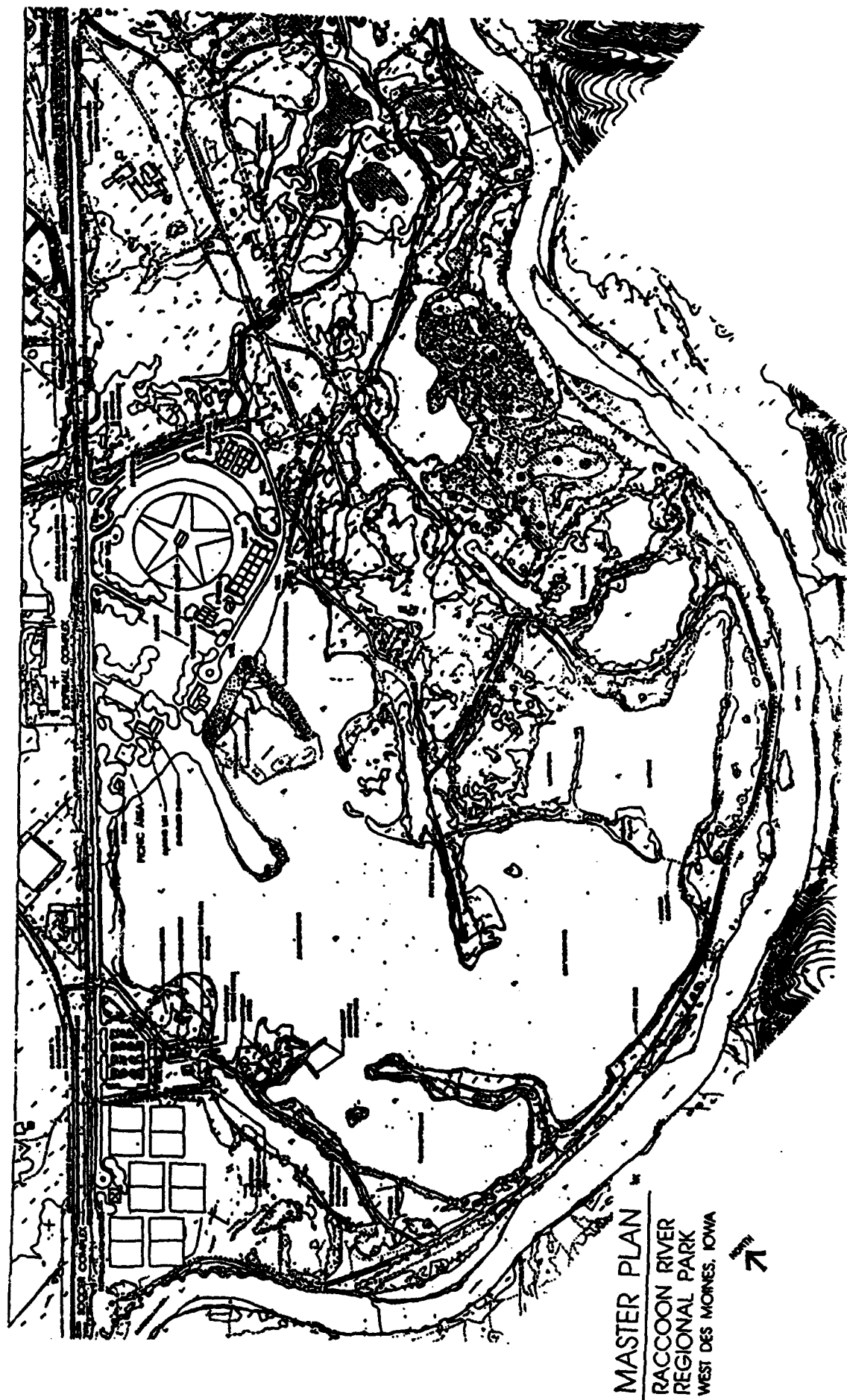


Figure 3. Master Plan Map of Raccoon River Regional Park.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT AREA

The proposed project area is situated at the southern edge of the landform region known as the Des Moines Lobe (Prior 1991:31). This region was formed by deposition from a lobe of the Laurentide Ice Sheet which surged into northcentral Iowa during the latter part of the Wisconsin stage of the Pleistocene Epoch. The initial advance of the Des Moines Lobe ice sheet into Iowa began approximately 14,000 years before present (B.P.) and had almost entirely receded from the state by approximately 13,000 years B.P. (Bettis 1990; Hallberg et al. 1990). The advance halted at what is now the City of Des Moines and is marked by the Bemis end moraine. This advance also resulted in the establishment of the present course of the Raccoon River. Since the final retreat of this ice sheet, weathering and erosion have modified the landscape to some degree, but compared with other regions in Iowa, the topography and landforms "still retain the distinct imprints of recent glacial occupation" (Prior 1991:47).

The few rivers which drain the Des Moines Lobe have excavated deep valleys and have deposited extensive sand and gravel terraces. The largest of these rivers is the Des Moines River which flows generally down the axis of the Des Moines Lobe region. This steep-sided, narrow river valley was formed through rapid excavation by swift, glacial meltwater. Some uneroded outwash deposit remnants are evidenced by terraces along the valley sides and are often quarried for commercial sand and gravel production (Prior 1991:36-47). Likewise, the extensive alluvial sand and gravel deposits along the Raccoon River, including those in the project area, have been commercially mined over the years.

A study of the downstream corridor of Saylorville Lake along the Des Moines River (Benn and Bettis 1981:11) identified three major Holocene valley surfaces designated as the High (TH), Intermediate (TI), and Low (TL) terraces. It was noted that "all of these surfaces have evolved during the last 10,500 years, the Holocene period, and are underlain by thick sands and gravels deposited during the Late Pleistocene" (Ibid.). The High terrace developed during the early to middle Holocene between 12,500 and 4,000 years ago and was concurrent with alluvial fan formation (Anderson 1993). This terrace "probably covered the [Des Moines River] valley by 4,000 B.P. when a period of downcutting commenced" (Benn and Rogers 1985:6). The Intermediate terrace developed between approximately 4,000 and 700 years ago and "encompasses a complex sequence of alluvial landforms" within the present meanderbelt of the Des Moines River (Benn and Bettis 1981:14-15). These landforms include point bars, levees, chutes, and abandoned channels. The Low terrace developed after 700 years ago (Anderson 1993; Benn and Bettis 1981). The modern floodplain of the Des Moines River is comprised of the lower portions of the Intermediate Terrace and all of the Low Terrace (Benn and Bettis 1985:14).

Art Bettis (Personal communication 1993) has noted that the Raccoon River had a slow gradient and did not meander much during valley development. In the project area, the river was restricted along the south side by a bluffline, with the major terrace and fan development occurring on the north side where the valley was wider and less restricted (see Figure 1). The project area is specifically situated along the north bank of the Raccoon River approximately 6 mi (9.6 km) southwest of the confluence with the Des Moines River (see Figure 1). Within the project area, the terrain is characterized by level, alluvial floodplain where it has not been disturbed by the sand and gravel mining operations (Figure 4). The selected areas for Phase I investigation are city-owned land and are situated on Low to Intermediate terraces, which are currently in cultivation and have forested margins where the parcels abut the lake,

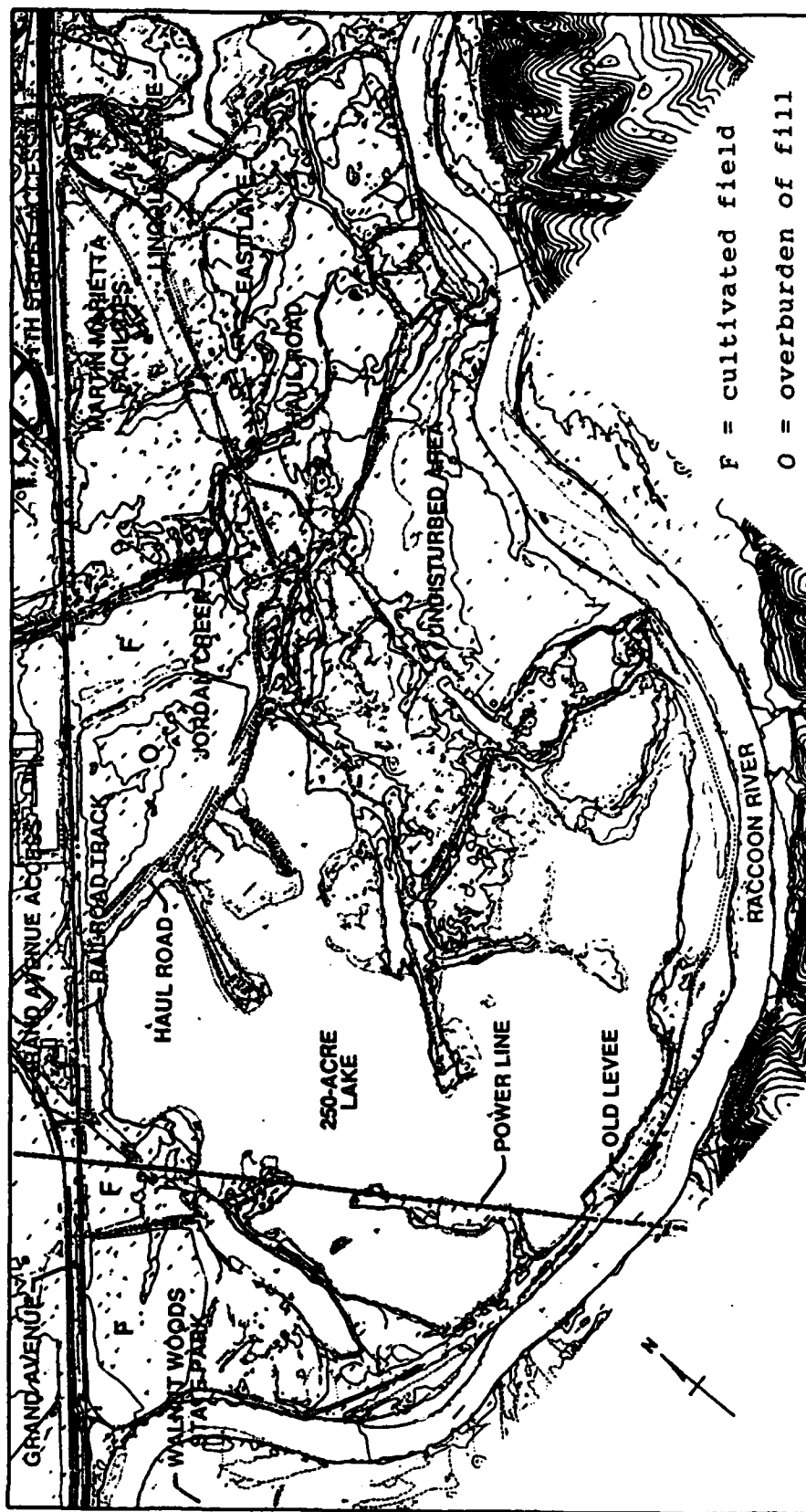


Figure 4. Map of Existing Site Features.
Source: Stanley Consultants et al. 1991

river channel, an unnamed intermittent drainage, and Jordan Creek (see Plates 1-6). Much of the original Low terrace in the project vicinity has been destroyed by mining activities. In general, landform identification in the project area is difficult because of the extensive landscape modification that has occurred during the historic period. In addition to the extraction of sand and gravel resulting in the removal of large areas of the Low terrace and the construction of a railroad paralleling the project area by the 1870s, the course of Jordan Creek has been altered since 1872 and now flows in a more direct southeasterly direction into the Raccoon River than it did during the early historic period (Figures 5 and 6). The creek was roughly in its present configuration by 1885 (Figure 7).

The general soils in the project area are nearly level soils that formed in outwash and alluvium (McCracken 1960:General Soil Map). The soil types mapped in the project area prior to extensive sand and gravel mining included Huntsville silt loam (Hf on Figure 8), Cooper silt loam (Ct), Alluvial Land (Ac), Kato loam (KbA), and Waukegan loam (WeC) (McCracken 1960). Of these soil areas, most of the areas mapped as Waukegan, Kato, and Alluvial Land have since been quarried out to well below the water table. Those areas that are relatively intact and/or buried underneath re-deposited borrow include areas mapped as Cooper silt loam and Huntsville silt loam. Cooper silt loam consists of poorly drained soil that occurs on low terraces or second bottoms along the Des Moines and Raccoon rivers and formed in alluvium, while the Huntsville silt loam consists of poorly to moderately well drained soil that occurs on bottom lands and formed in alluvium under a native vegetation of trees and/or prairie grass (Ibid.). Benn and Bettis (1985:14) have noted that, in general, the Kato soil series are mapped on the High terrace in Polk County, with the Dorchester soil series being the dominant mapped unit on the Intermediate terrace and the Alluvial Land mapping unit most common on the Low terrace. In the project area, it appears that the Cooper and Huntsville silt loams are mapped on the Low to Intermediate terraces, with the Alluvial Land on the Low terrace and Kato loam on the High terraces to the northwest of the project area (see Figure 8).

Borings taken by Terracon Consultants NE, Inc., as part of the Master Plan evaluation (Stanley Consultants et al. 1991:Appendix D), examined the soil profiles of selected areas of the proposed park. In the area of the proposed wildlife area in the southeast portion of the project area (see Figure 3), one soil boring revealed a profile that "generally consists of about 55 feet of sand deposits overlying a weathered clay shale "bedrock," typical to the area" (Ibid.:D-2). The soil survey mapped much of this area as alluvial land, with abandoned meander channel scars clearly visible on the 1950 aerial photograph (Rogers 1993).

Additional soil borings in the area of the proposed softball complex (see Figure 3) revealed an area of approximately 10 feet of fill overlying 10 feet of black topsoil and brown silty clay (Stanley Consultants et al. 1991:D-2). This location is visible as a prominent mounded area on the northeast side of the main haul road and is presently under cultivation. In general, the areas along the northwest edge of the project area immediately adjacent and parallel to the railroad tracks (see Figures 2 and 4), were either undisturbed by the mining operations or have an overburden of fill burying an undisturbed, former ground surface. The main impact to these remnant areas has been from cultivation.

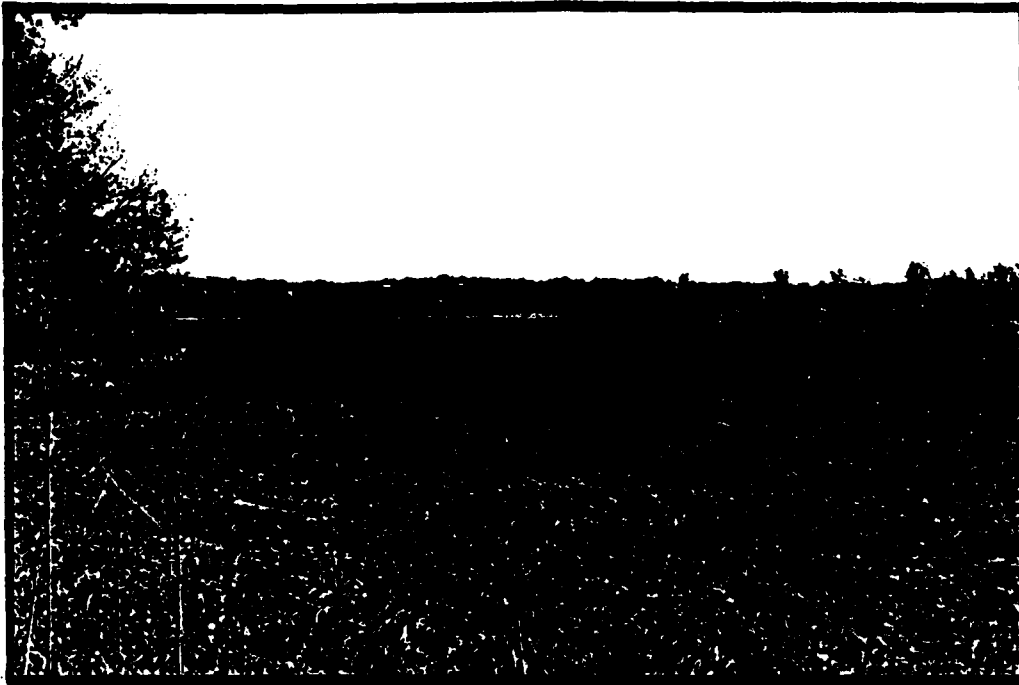


Plate 1. Agricultural Field at East Side of Project Area,
View to the South-Southeast.
Field Date: May 5, 1993

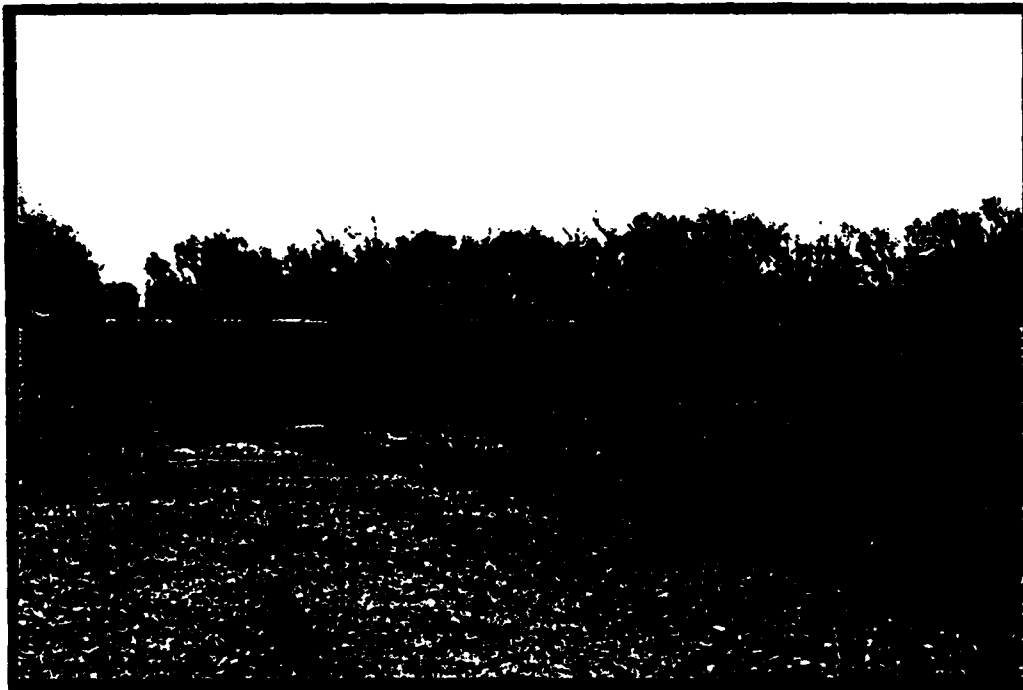


Plate 2. Agricultural Field by Entrance on West Side of Project Area,
View to the Northeast.
Field Date: May 8, 1993

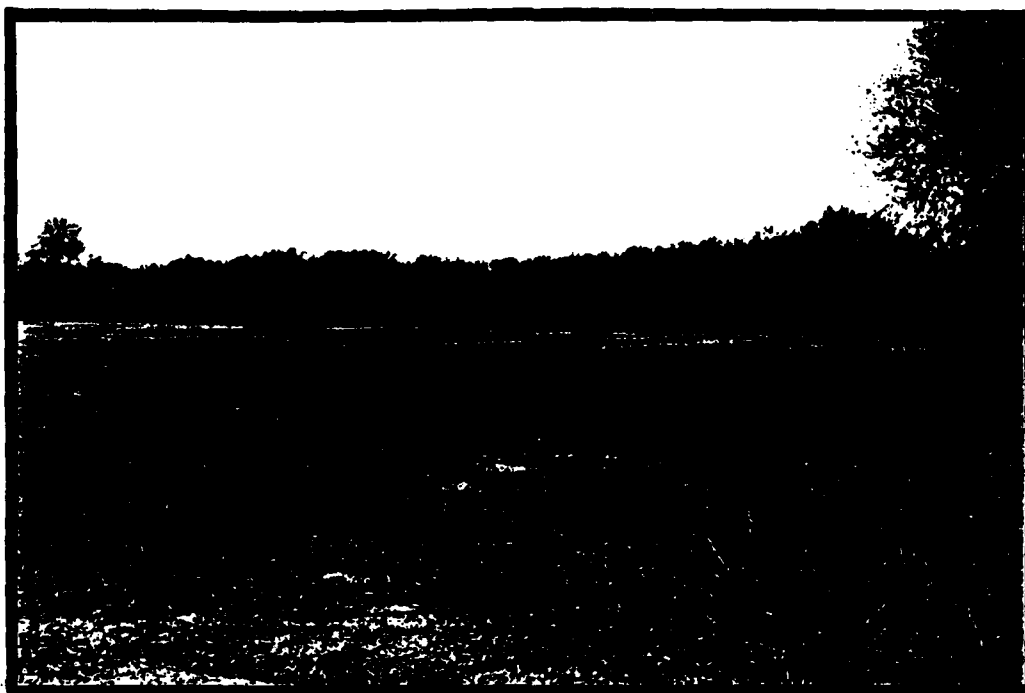


Plate 3. Agricultural Field at West Side of Project Area,
View to the Southwest.
Field Date: May 8, 1993



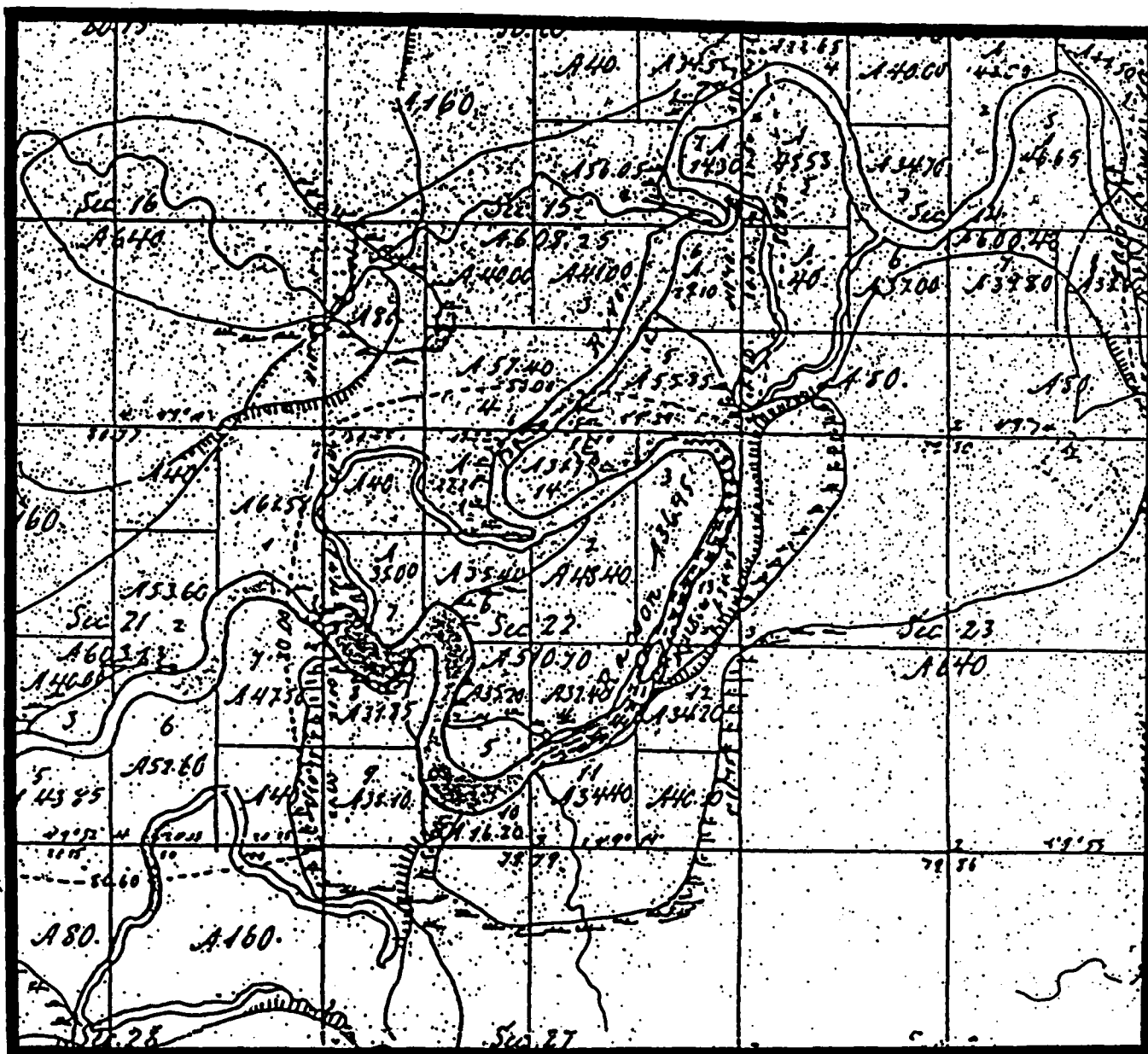
Plate 4. Jordan Creek from Railroad Bridge at North Edge of Project
Area, View to the Southeast.
Field Date: May 5, 1993



Plate 5. Unnamed Intermittent Drainage In-Between the Two Western
Fields, View to the Southeast.
Field Date: May 8, 1993



Plate 6. Quarry Lake, View to the Southeast.
Field Date: May 5, 1993



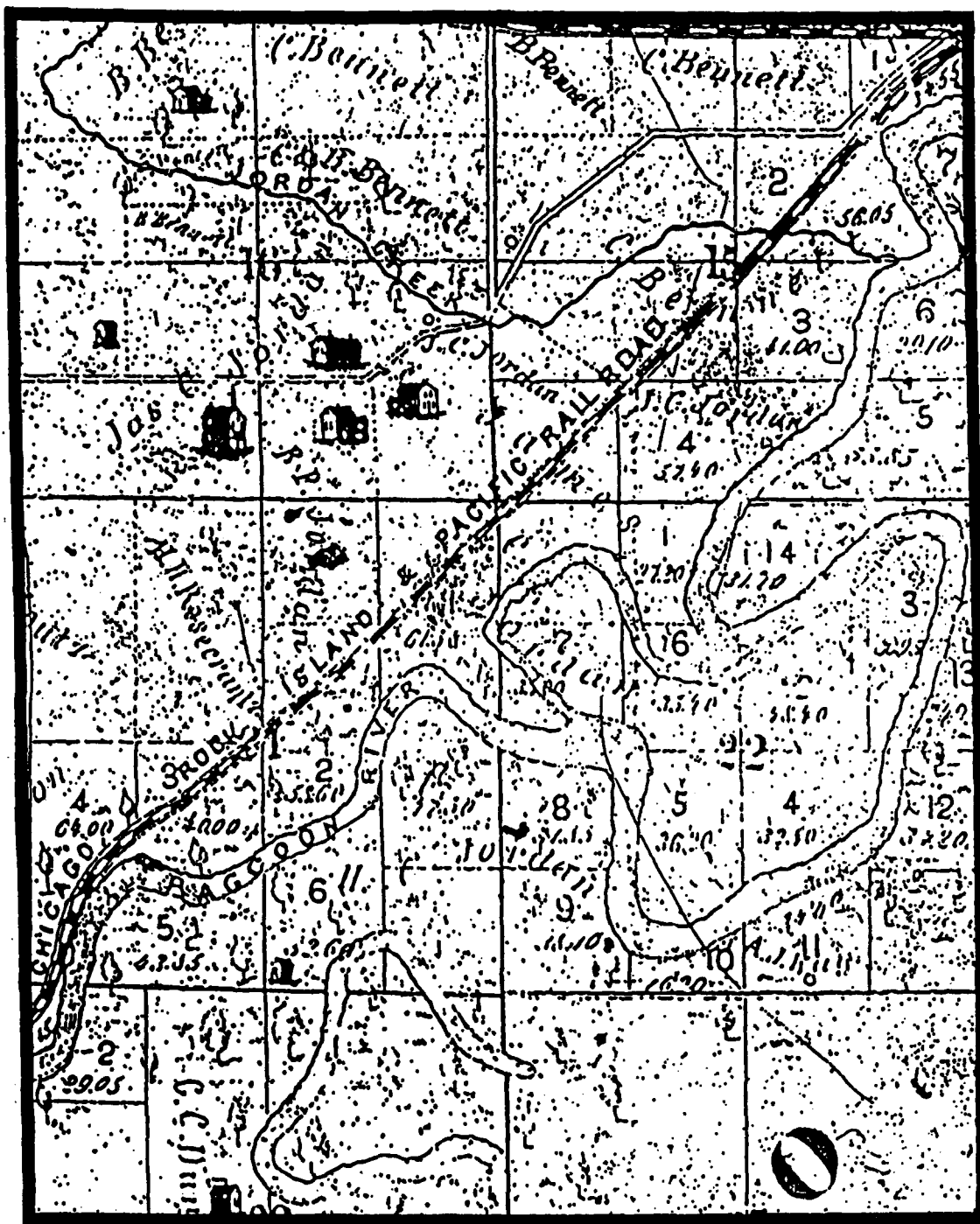


Figure 6. 1872 Map of Project Area.
Source: McVicker 1872

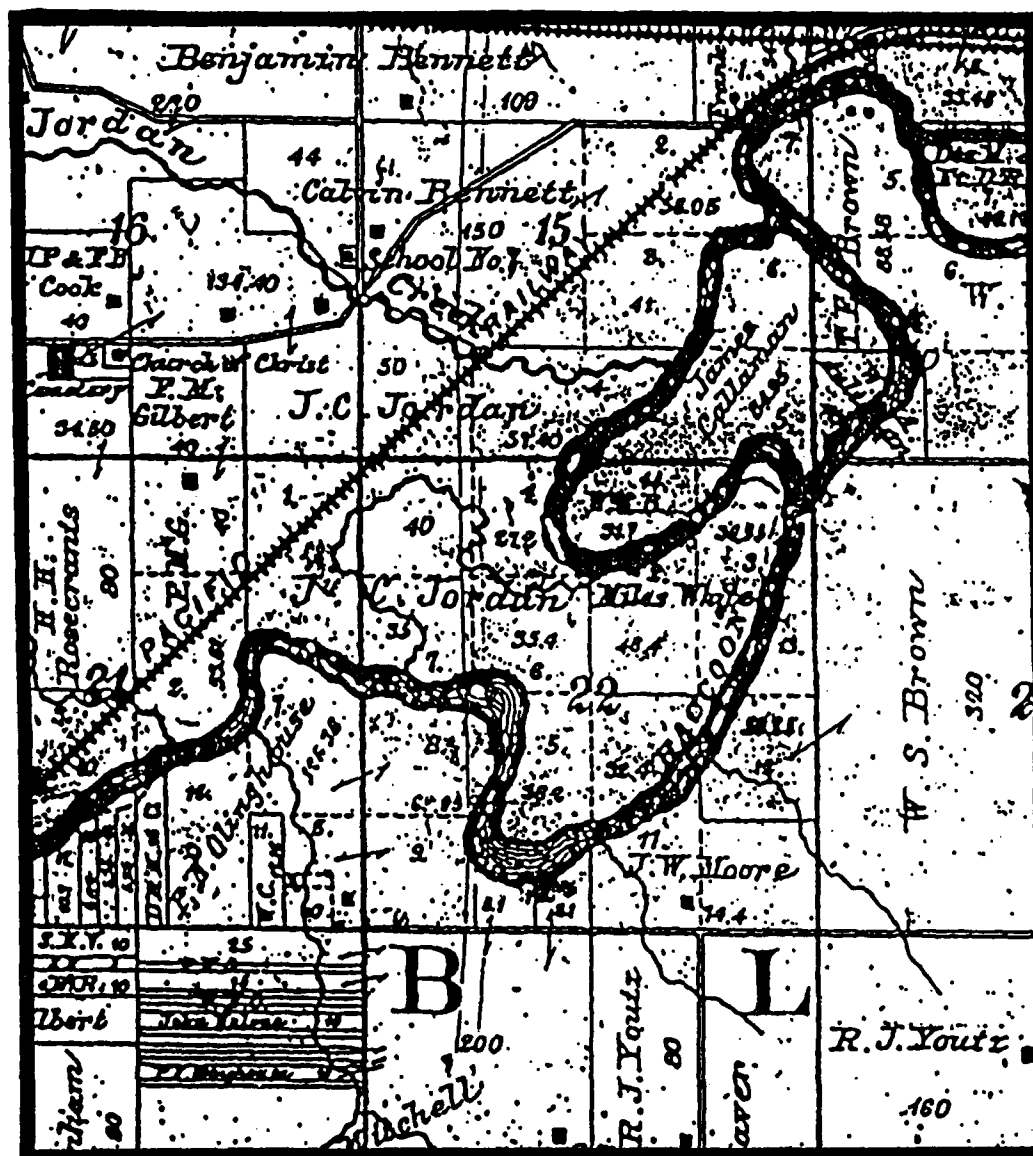


Figure 7. 1885 Map of Project Area.
Source: Warner and Foote 1885



Figure 8. Map of Project Area Showing Mapped Soil Units.
Source: McCracken 1960:Sheet No. 13 and 1950 Aerial Photo

METHODS

The Phase I investigation was based on the previous land use history study (Rogers 1993), for which a comprehensive review of all pertinent archaeological and historical literature and state records had already been conducted. That review included an examination of the following: the archaeological site records and reports on file at the Office of the State Archaeologist in Iowa City; the historic maps and atlases and county history books on file at the State Historical Society of Iowa Library and Archives in Des Moines; aerial photographs on file in the Map Collections of the University of Iowa Library in Iowa City; the Polk County soil survey; and the 1991 Master Plan for the Raccoon River Regional Park. The present investigation also examined pertinent geomorphological studies of the region including: Anderson 1993; Benn and Bettis 1981, 1985; Bettis and Littke 1987; and Benn and Rogers 1985.

The field investigation was conducted on May 5 and 8, 1993, as weather conditions permitted. The fieldwork involved pedestrian surface survey and limited subsurface testing. The pedestrian survey was conducted over cultivated surfaces in parallel transects at intervals no greater than 20 m. Surface visibility at the time of investigation was 50-70%, with the three fields in the project area having most recently been cultivated in soybeans. Only one of the fields had been disked prior to investigation. The subsurface testing consisted of the excavation of soil auger tests utilizing a Seymour Auger having a 20 cm diameter bucket and extensions reaching just over 2 m in depth. Approximately 15 cm of soil is excavated in each level with the Seymour Auger. Each level was screened through 1/4 in hardware cloth where soil conditions permitted. Otherwise, the excavated soil was closely examined by troweling. Soil texture, color, and changes were noted for each auger test. All excavations were backfilled upon completion.

Additional field study was conducted in August 1993 and consisted of soil core tests and the description of the project area soils by Allan W. Younk, Area Soil Scientist for the Soil Conservation Service, Indianola Office, and the excavation of 21 Seymour auger tests to depths exceeding 70 cm below surface based on the results of the soil probes.

The architectural properties were examined in the field and documented through photographs and exterior descriptions. Each property was recorded on State Historical Society of Iowa Site Inventory forms, which are included in the appendix of this report. Site significance was evaluated according to the criteria and integrity considerations of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as set forth by the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

The field survey was coordinated with Gary Scott of the West Des Moines Parks and Recreation office and George May of Martin Marietta Aggregate. Bob Koder, owner of K & B Roofing was also contacted by telephone for information concerning his property. Art Bettis of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in Iowa City was contacted for information concerning the geomorphology of the project area.

RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The previous land use study conducted a records search at the Office of the State Archaeologist in Iowa City. The search revealed that there are no previously recorded sites in the project area (Rogers 1993).

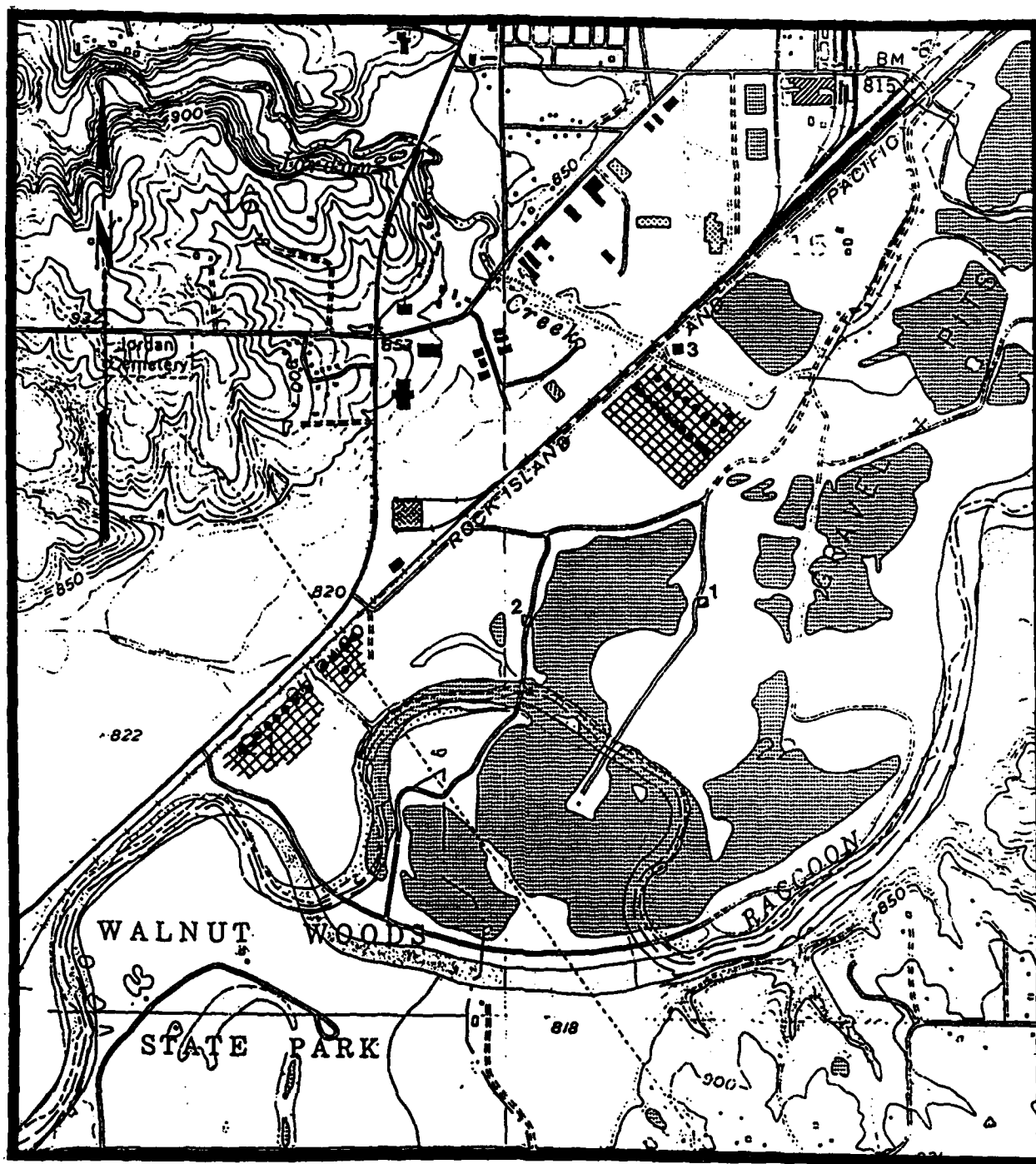
Examination of the historic plat maps and atlases dating from 1847-1960 revealed that the earliest historic settlement within the project boundaries dated from c. 1907 when a farmstead was established in the NW1/4 of Section 22 (Anonymous 1918; Iowa Engineering 1895; Iowa Publishing Company 1904; McVicker 1872; United States 1847; U.S.G.S. 1907; Warner and Foote 1885). The pre-1907 maps showed no indication of this farmstead, suggesting that it originated in the early twentieth century. The nineteenth century maps further show that until c. 1904, a large portion of the project area was cut off by an oxbow or old meander channel of the Raccoon River which effectively made this portion an island. Access appears to have been limited during this period, thus inhibiting actual settlement.

An oral history interview was conducted during the land use history study (Rogers 1993) with Ernie Swanson of Des Moines. Mr. Swanson was an employee of Martin Marietta from 1946, just after Martin Marietta had purchased the Raccoon River project area for mining purposes, until 1976 when he retired. According to Mr. Swanson (Rogers 1993), the only buildings on the property were associated with the farmstead, which he described as having been a large cattle ranch. Mr. Swanson also recalled that during the course of the sand and gravel mining operations over the entire Martin Marietta property, a number of Indian arrow points, bison skulls and bones, and mastodon teeth were recovered from below the water table by the dredge pump (Rogers 1993).

The previous land use study also examined aerial photographs dating from 1950-1967. The 1950 aerial photograph showed the abandoned river channel meander scars within the project boundaries as well as the farmstead and surrounding fields and the beginnings of the Martin Marietta mining operations (Rogers 1993). By 1961 the mining operations had extended well into the project area to the northeast and southeast of the farmstead. By 1967 the mining had extended even further to the southwest removing much of the farmstead itself. The fill overburden noted previously in the area of the proposed softball complex appears to have been in place by 1967 and shows a sharp contrast to the agricultural field immediately adjacent to the northeast. Since that time the mining operations have expanded to the northwest creating the full extent of the present 250 acre lake. In addition, the c. 1967 river channel in the southwest portion of the project area was diverted further to the southwest by the "Martin Marietta Cutoff" in the late 1960s-early 1970s. The bottomland area in-between the cutoff and the c. 1967 river channel was then largely removed through dredging (Rogers 1993).

While the Martin Marietta Corporation still owns most of the project area, the excavation of sand and gravel has been concluded although sorting, shipping, and maintenance operations continue (Stanley Consultants et al. 1991:I-5). The field areas along the northwest edge of the project area have been intensively cultivated throughout the twentieth century and likely into the nineteenth century and continue to be cultivated by nonresident tenant farmers.

The Phase I field investigation was conducted on May 5 and 8, 1993, with follow-up on August 24 and 26, 1993, and resulted in the recording of three architectural properties but no archaeological sites. The area surveyed totalled approximately 48 ac (19.2 ha) (Figure 9). The architectural properties were recorded on Iowa Site Inventory forms which are presented in Appendix C. All three properties are less than 50 years of age and failed to meet the significance criteria and considerations for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Two of the buildings were identified as a scale house and machine shed associated with



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- ¹ = Buildings Recorded
- ▣ = Area Surveyed
- = Auger Test

Figure 9. Areas Surveyed by Phase I Investigation.

the post-1946 Martin Marietta sand and gravel mining operations, while the third building continues to function as the office and shop for K & B Roofing of West Des Moines. The machine shed had been previously identified as a former cattle shed associated with the early twentieth century farmstead (Rogers 1993); however, examination of this building indicated that it was unlikely to have been used as a cattle shed due to the lack of windows or other means of ventilation. Furthermore, its construction appears to be more recent and, therefore, it would be associated with the mining operations rather than the former farmstead. The machine shed and the scale house will be removed by the proposed park construction, while the roofing office may only be marginally impacted. None of these properties require further investigation.

The archaeological field survey consisted of pedestrian surface survey of the three fields along the north edge of the project area, excluding the field which has an overburden of 10 ft of fill. The surface survey noted gravels on the surface of some of the field areas, although gravel over the western field had obviously been brought in for a field road. The only artifacts observed were widely scattered modern debris, including soda pop bottle fragments and skeet. These debris do not constitute an archaeological site because of their modern origin and secondary context. In general, surface visibility was good to excellent, with the fields having been weathered over the winter and recently rained upon. The easternmost field had also been recently disked in preparation for planting.

To supplement the pedestrian surface survey and to further examine the nature of the landforms in the project area and the potential for buried cultural deposits, a total of 32 Seymour Auger tests was excavated in the field areas. Twenty of these tests were excavated in north-south transects at 30 m intervals across the easternmost field where the softball complex will be constructed (see Figure 9). The remaining 12 tests were excavated in selected areas in the western fields (see Figure 9). Because of heavy rainfall and summer flooding, the water table was encountered at depths ranging from 1-1.75 m. Three of the tests, two in the east field and one in the western fields, were excavated to 2 m below the present ground surface, while the remaining tests were excavated to 70-100 cm below surface well below the A horizon and into the B horizon.

Allan W. Younk, SCS Area Soil Scientist, advanced seven soil probe corings across the project area, with four advanced in the eastern field and three in the western fields (Figure 10). These tests were then described as to parent material, physiography, soil horizons by depth, color, texture, structure, consistence, and boundary. The descriptions for each test are presented in Appendix A. The tests in the eastern field generally showed an A-C soil horizon from 0-140 and 170 cm below surface. The C horizon in this area consists of sand and is situated at and below the current water table. The A horizon in the eastern field area generally extends to 37-75 cm below surface. The soil cores in the western fields encountered much the same profile, with the A horizon extending to 44-60 cm below surface (see Figure 10 and Appendix A). The test core (#7) at the eastern edge of the westernmost field encountered stratified alluvial deposits to 160+ cm below surface and represent an unstable land surface and likely a former channel of the intermittent tributary which is currently adjacent to the east (see Figure 10). The auger tests further to the west of core #7 (see Figure 9) exhibited much the same profile as that encountered in cores #5 and 6 (see Figure 10 and Appendix A), with the auger tests excavated well below the A horizon and into the B.

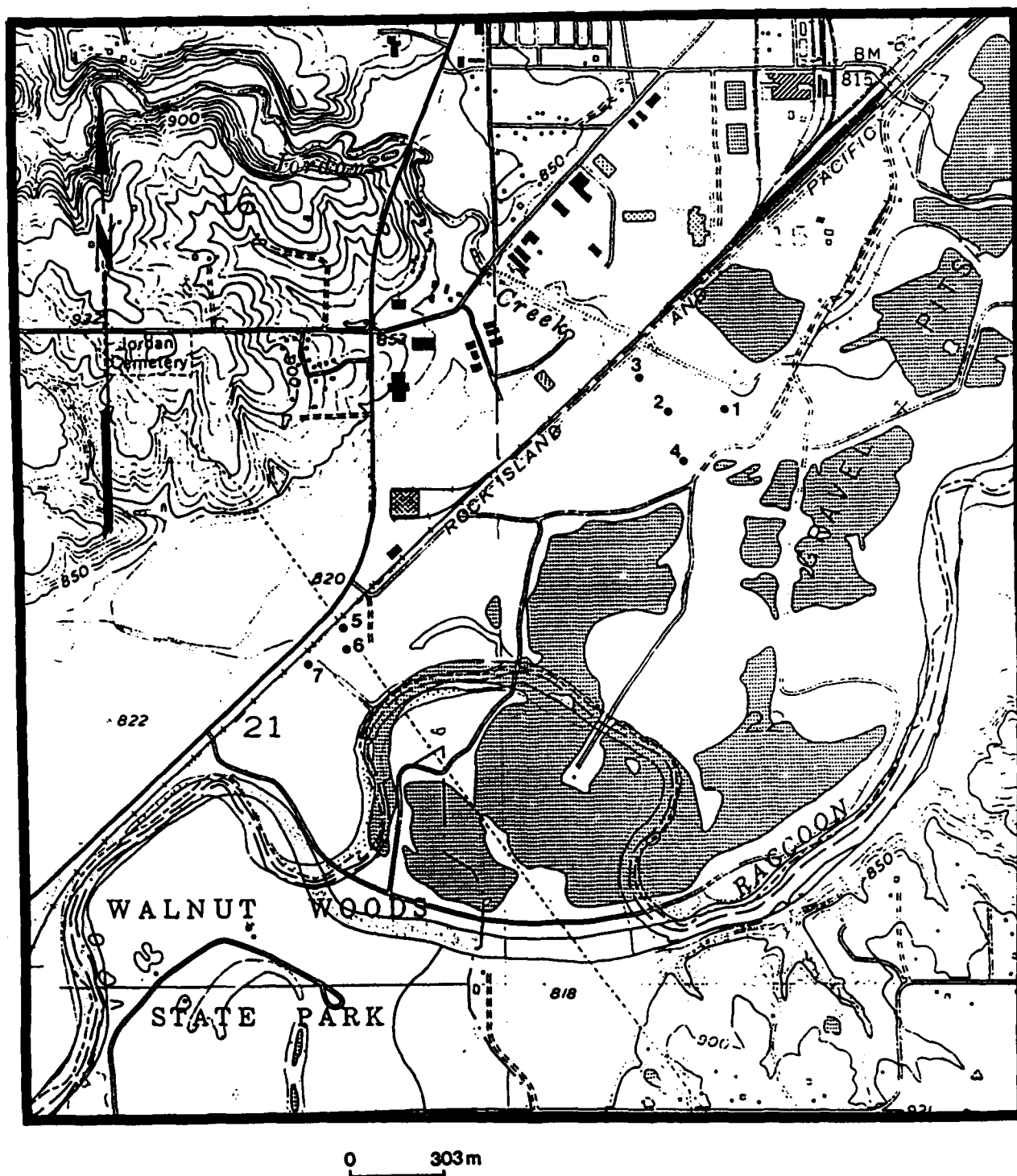


Figure 10. Location of Soil Cores Advanced and Described in Appendix A.

In general, the results of the auger testing suggest that the landform where the eastern field is located is an intermediate terrace, while the western fields are situated at the escarpment between the low and intermediate terraces. There was no indication of a buried A horizon, or stable living surface, within 1-2 m of the present ground surface in these areas.

The present project plans call for the addition of a minimum of 2.5-3 ft of fill over the eastern field where the softball complex will be constructed. The maximum impact from foundation construction of the associated buildings will be 3.5 ft (1.06 m) in depth from the new grade (Scott, personal communication 1993; Stanley Consultants et al. 1991). The only potential impact below 1 m from the present ground surface will be from several wells that will be drilled around the softball field complex. Two wells have already been drilled in this area. While it is possible that these well excavations will encounter cultural deposits at depths greater than 1-2 m, the small diameter of the well borings would have a negligible impact on such deposits if they are present. Further investigation at greater depths would be required if future project plans call for substantial impacts below 2 m.

The project plans for the western fields call for some stripping of the topsoil to an average depth of 6 in (15 cm), with the addition of some sand fill to the proposed soccer fields (Scott, personal communication 1993; Stanley Consultants et al. 1991). The only potential impact below the present plow zone will be from the construction of restroom facilities. The results of the subsurface testing in the proposed restroom area indicate no buried cultural resources or buried A horizons within 1-2 m of the present ground surface.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Phase I archaeological and architectural investigation of the proposed Raccoon River Regional Park of the Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt in West Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa, resulted in the recording of three architectural properties and no archaeological sites. A total of 48 ac (19.2 ha) was surveyed during this investigation. The three architectural properties were all less than 50 years of age and included a scale house and machine shed from the post-1946 mining operations and a roofing office/shop that is still in use. All of these buildings were determined to be ineligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and warrant no further investigation. Furthermore, based on the lack of archaeological sites, additional cultural resource investigations within the proposed project area are not warranted and project clearance is recommended.

However, no field technique is completely adequate to define all potential cultural resources within a given area. Therefore, should any cultural resources be detected during park construction, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, and the Historic Preservation Bureau of the State Historical Society of Iowa in Des Moines should be notified immediately.

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- United States
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1885 Map of Polk County, Iowa. Warner and Foote, Minneapolis.

APPENDIX A:
SOIL DESCRIPTIONS

Soil type

File No.

Area <u>Test area 1</u>		Date <u>8/24/97</u>	Stop No.
Classification			
Location <u>Rac. River Regional Park Site</u>			
N. veg. (or crop)		Climate	
Parent material <u>ALLuvium</u>			
Physiography <u>Stream terrace</u>			
Relief	Drainage <u>SWP</u>	Salt or alkali	
Elevation	Gr. water <u>145 cm.</u>	Stoniness	
Slope	Moisture		
Aspect	Root distrib.	% Clay *	
Erosion	% Coarse fragments *	% Coarser than V.F.S. *	
Permeability			
Additional notes			

* Control section average

[illegible]

Allen W. Young
ARSS Indiana Area Office

Soil type

File No.

Area Test Area 2

Date 8/24/93

Stop No.

Classification

Location *West Des Moines Regoon River Park Srta*

N. veg. (or crop)

Climate

Parent material *Alluvium*

Physiography Stream terrace

Relief

Drainage

Salt or alkali

Elevation

Gr. water 160, r

Stoniness

Slope

Moisture

Aspect

Root distrib.

Clay

Erosion

% Coarse fragments *

* Coarser than V.F.S. *

Permeability

Additional notes

Sig: Allan W. York
ARSS

* Control section average

[illegible]

File No.

by Alban W. Frank
 Attest Thelma

* Control section average

[illegible]

File No.

Stop No.

Climate

Salt or alkali

Stoniness

Moisture

% Clay *

% Coarser than U.F.S. "

Additional notes

Press Indiana

* Control section average

[illegible]

File No.

by Allen W Young
PRES / Treasurer

* Control section average

[illegible]

File No.

by: Allan W. York
PRESS *Indiscrete*

* Control section average

[illegible]

File No.

by: Allen W. York
1955 Independence

[illegible]

APPENDIX B:
REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - P.O. BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

June 8, 1993

Planning Division

Mr. James E. Jacobsen
Bureau of Historic Preservation
Review and Compliance Program
State Historical Society of Iowa
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

The Rock Island District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the City of Johnston (City), Iowa, have attached the draft reports Land Use History and Historic Property Potential (attachment 1) and Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance and Architectural Inventory for Selected Areas (attachment 2) for the Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt (hereafter referred to as the Greenbelt), Raccoon River Regional Park (Project) Des Moines, Iowa, prepared by Ms. Leah D. Rogers, Mount Vernon, Iowa.

The Corps and the City recommend project approval and acceptance of the draft reports. This will fulfill our requirements as promulgated by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended.

The Greenbelt is authorized by the Corps and the City under Public Law 99-88 and is located in portions of Sections 15, 21, and 22, Township 78 North, Range 25 West, as depicted on the attached Project locational map (attachment 3) and encompasses agricultural, riverine, and abandoned commercial mining land along the Raccoon River valley in Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa. The Greenbelt corridor consists of a unique collection of highly valuable natural and historically significant areas, and a variety of recreational areas.

In accordance with Public Law 99-88, this Greenbelt Project was included in the City's Regional Parks Master Plan and the Corps' General Design Memorandum. The Greenbelt concept is to coordinate existing and future Federal, State, and local recreational and environmental enhancement projects by linking them collectively to maximize the attraction of recreational use and economic development, since river use has been historically low due to limited access and minimal attraction.

Copies Furnished:

ATTN: Mr. Doug Adamson
CGA Associates
414 Sixty-First Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50312 (w/attachments)

Mr. Ron DeGroot
City Hall/Engineering
400 East First Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50306-1891 (w/attachments)

Dr. William Green
State Archaeologist
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242 (w/attachments)

Ms. Patricia Zingsheim
Principle Planner
Des Moines Planning Department
East First and Des Moines Streets
Des Moines, Iowa 50307 (w/attachments)

✓ Ms. Leah D. Rogers
217 NW. 5th Street
Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314 (wo/attachments)



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - P.O. BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

August 3, 1993

Planning Division

Ms. Leah Rogers
217 Northwest 5th Street
Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314

Dear Ms. Rogers:

The Rock Island District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the City of West Des Moines (City), Iowa, approve and accept the draft Phase I Archeological Reconnaissance and Architectural Inventory for Selected Areas Within the Des Moines Recreational River and Greenbelt Proposed Raccoon River Regional Park, West Des Moines, Iowa report without comment or changes.

We request 8 copies and 1 master "camera ready" of the final report within 25 calendar days, as stipulated by the Scope of Work under Purchase Order DACW25-93-M-0573.

Please include the attached State Historic Preservation recommendation for project approval within the final report. The Corps and the City appreciate the timely and professional manner in which you carried out the objectives of the Scope of Work, and we commend your excellent draft report.

Please submit final billing with the final reports. If you have questions or comments concerning the final billing or Scope of Work, please call Mr. Ron Deiss of our Environmental Analysis Branch, telephone 309/794-5185, or you may write to the following address:

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District, Rock Island
ATTN: Planning Division
Clock Tower Building
P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

Sincerely,


Dudley M. Hanson, P.E.
Chief, Planning Division

Attachment



State Historical Society of Iowa

The Historical Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs

July 19, 1993

In reply refer to:
R&C#: 880500054

James H. Blanchar, P. E.
Chief, Operations Division
Rock Island Corps of Engineers
Clock Tower Building
P. O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61203-2004

RE: COE - MULTI COUNTY - LAND USE HISTORY AND HISTORIC PROPERTY POTENTIAL FOR THE DSM RECREATIONAL RIVER AND GREENBELT PROPOSED RACCOON RIVER REGIONAL PARK WDSM - DACW25-93-M-0246 - PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY FOR SELECTED AREAS WITHIN THE DSM RECREATIONAL RIVER AND GREENBELT PROPOSED RACCOON RIVER REGIONAL PARK WDSM - DACW25-93-M-0573

Dear Mr. Blanchar:

Based on the information you provided, we find that there are no historic properties which might be affected by the proposed undertaking. Therefore, we recommend project approval.

However, if the proposed project work uncovers an item or items which might be of archeological, historical or architectural interest, or if important data come to light in the project area, you should make reasonable efforts to avoid or minimize harm to the property until the significance of the discovery can be determined.

Should you have any questions or if the office can be of further assistance to you, please contact the Review & Compliance Coordinator at 515-281-4137.

Sincerely,

Kathy Gourley
Archeologist, Review and Compliance Program
Historic Preservation Bureau

/st

cc: City of West Des Moines
Ms. Leah D. Rogers
Stanley Consultants

APPENDIX C:
IOWA SITE INVENTORY FORMS

Survey ID Number Raccoon #1
Database ID Number _____
Nonextant _____

1. Historic Name(s)	<u>Martin Marietta Scale House</u>				
2. Common Name(s)					
3. Street Address	<u>Martin Marietta Quarry, Grand Avenue</u>				
4. City <u>West Des Moines</u>	Vicinity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		5. County	<u>Polk</u>	
6. Subdivision	7. Block(s)		8. Lot(s)		
9. Legal Description: (If Rural)	Township	Range	Section	Quarter of	Quarter
	<u>78N</u>	<u>25W</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>NW</u>
	<u>Description</u>				<u>Code</u>
10. Historic Function(s)	<u>Quarry scale house</u>				<u>10C</u>
11. Current Function(s)	<u>Vacant/not in use</u>				<u>98</u>
12. Owner <u>Martin Marietta Aggregate</u>					Phone # <u>254-0030</u>
Address <u>11197 Aurora Avenue</u>	City/State <u>Des Moines/IA</u>		ZIP	<u>50322</u>	

(Plat Map)



(Sketch Map)

(Integrity Notes)

Building is vacant and deteriorating. Less than 50 years of age.

Roll/Frame 1 / 2 Photographer L. Rogers
View East-Southeast
Location of Negatives: OSA, Iowa City



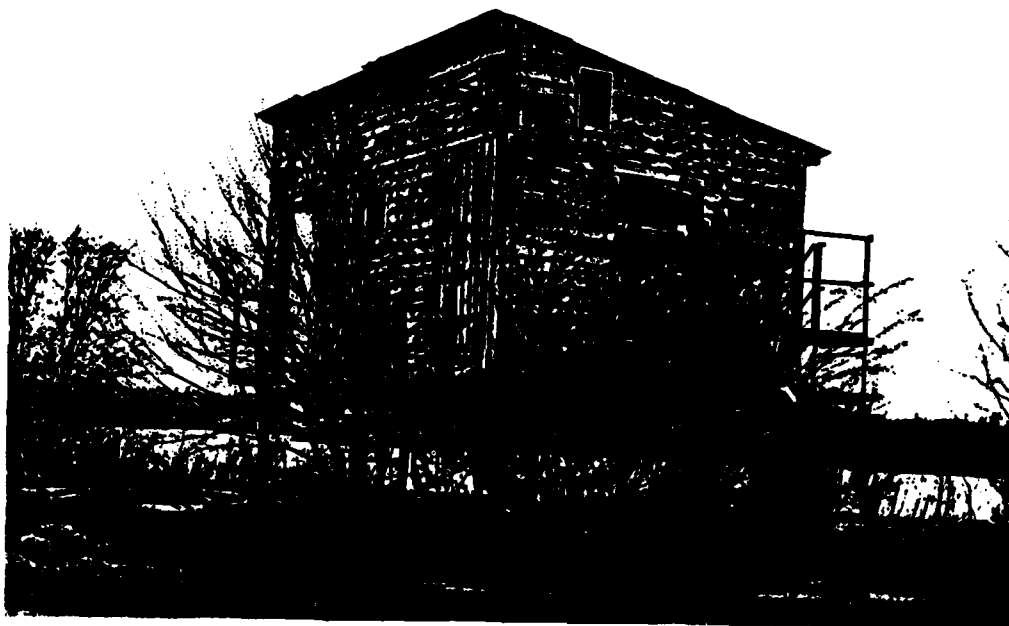
IOWA SITE INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET

Survey ID Number Raccoon 1

Database ID Number _____

Street Address Martin Marietta Quarry City West Des Moines County Polk
Legal Description: (If Rural) Township 78N Range 25W Section 22 Quarter of Quarter NW

Continuation of Photographs Page 1



Scale House, View to the West.
Roll 1, Negative 1

Survey ID Number Raccoon 2
Database ID Number Nonextant

1. Historic Name(s) _____

2. Common Name(s) _____

3. Street Address Martin Marietta Quarry, Grand Avenue

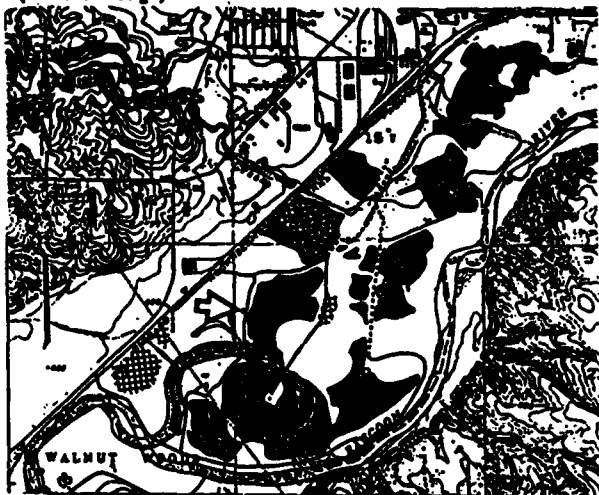
4. City West Des Moines Vicinity [X] 5. County Polk

6. Subdivision _____ 7. Block(s) _____ 8. Lot(s) _____

9. Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Range Section Quarter of Quarter
78N 25W 22 NE NW

	Description	Code
10. Historic Function(s)	<u>Machine Shed</u>	<u>10</u>
11. Current Function(s)	<u>Storage</u>	<u>99</u>
12. Owner <u>Martin Marietta Aggregate</u>	Phone # <u>254-0030</u>	
Address <u>11197 Aurora Avenue</u>	City/State <u>Des Moines/IA</u>	ZIP <u>50322</u>

(Plat Map)



(Sketch Map)

(Integrity Notes)

Roll/Frame 1 / 3 Photographer L. Rogers

View North

Location of Negatives: OSA, Iowa City

Building has been maintained and is in good condition. Less than 50 years of age.

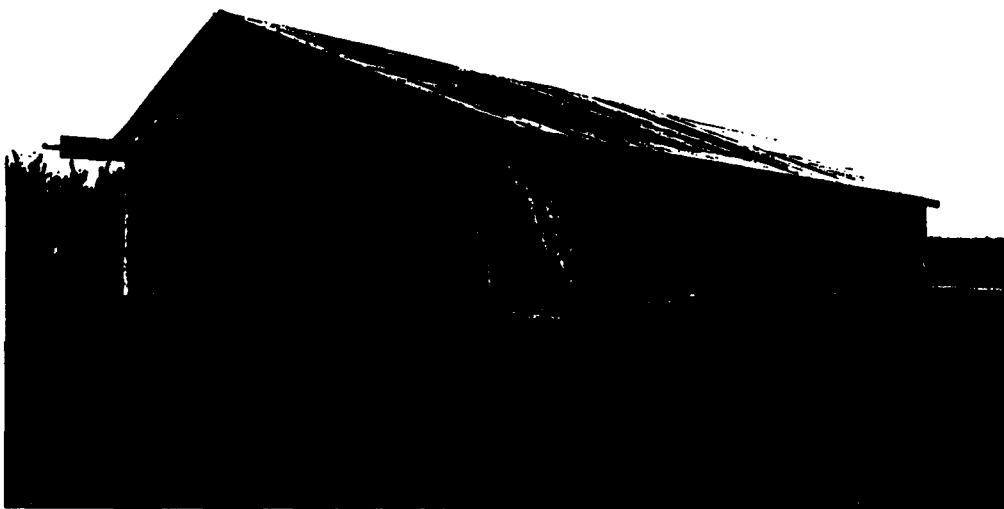


IOWA SITE INVENTORY FORM
CONTINUATION SHEET

Survey ID Number Raccoon 2
Database ID Number _____

• Street Address Martin Marietta Quarry City West Des Moines County Polk
Legal Description: (If Rural) Township 78N Range 25W Section 22 Quarter of Quarter NE NW

Continuation of Photographs Page 1



Machine Shed, View to the South.
Roll 1, Negative 4

Survey ID Number Raccoon 3
Database ID Number Nonextant

1. Historic Name(s) K & B Roofing

2. Common Name(s) _____

3. Street Address Martin Marietta Quarry, Grand Ave.

4. City West Des Moines Vicinity ☒ 5. County Polk

6. Subdivision _____ 7. Block(s) _____ 8. Lot(s) _____

9. Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Range Section Quarter of Quarter
78N 25W 15 SE SW

	Description	Code
10. Historic Function(s)	<u>Commerce/Trade/Business</u>	<u>02A</u>
11. Current Function(s)	<u>Commerce/Trade/Business</u>	<u>02A</u>
12. Owner <u>K & B Roofing, Bob Koder</u> Phone # <u>225-1601</u>		
Address _____	City/State <u>West Des Moines/IA</u>	ZIP <u>50265</u>

(Plat Map)



(Sketch Map)

(Integrity Notes)

I Roll/Frame 2 / 5 Photographer L. Rogers
I View East-Southeast
I Location of Negatives: OSA, Iowa City

Building is occupied
and maintained. Less
than 50 years of age.

